

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method of ~~detecting and analyzing the degree~~ determining the severity of thrombophilia, comprising measuring a von Willebrand factor-cleaving protease from a sample of bodily fluid from a patient suffering from one or more ~~of the following conditions~~ diseases selected from the group consisting of acute or chronic myeloid leukemia, acute promyelocytic leukemia, pulmonary embolism, cerebral infarction, veno-occlusive disease, acute lymphocytic leukemia, and deep vein thrombosis, wherein said bodily fluid is selected from the group consisting of whole blood, blood plasma, and serum; and correlating the quantitative level of von Willebrand factor -cleaving protease in the sample to that which would be present in a normal person, with a lower level present in the sample being indicative of an increased ~~risk~~ severity of thrombophilia.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the degree of thrombophilia is detected in a patient under a long-term treatment with dialysis accompanied by repeated shunt.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the von Willebrand factor-cleaving protease is immunologically measured using an antibody which specifically binds to the von Willebrand factor-cleaving protease, or a fragment of the antibody.
6. (Currently amended) A kit for detecting and analyzing the degree of thrombophilia, comprising an antibody which specifically binds to a von Willebrand factor-cleaving protease, or a fragment of the antibody; and instructions to use the antibody on a sample of bodily fluid from a patient suffering from one or more ~~of the following conditions~~ diseases selected from the group consisting of acute or chronic myeloid leukemia, acute promyelocytic leukemia, pulmonary embolism, cerebral infarction, veno-occlusive disease, acute lymphocytic leukemia, and deep vein thrombosis.

7. (Currently amended) A method of ~~analyzing a degree~~ determining the severity of thrombophilia in a patient, comprising:

collecting a sample of bodily fluid from said patient, said bodily fluid being selected from the group consisting of whole blood, blood plasma, and serum;

analyzing said sample using an immunological or biochemical method to quantitatively assess the level of von Willebrand factor-cleaving protease present in the sample;

correlating the quantitative level of von Willebrand factor -cleaving protease in the sample to that which would be present in a normal person, with a lower level present in the sample being indicative of an increased ~~risk~~severity of thrombophilia, wherein the patient is suffering from one or more diseases selected from the group consisting of pulmonary embolism, cerebral infarction, veno-occlusive disease, and deep vein thrombosis.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, where the bodily fluid is ~~selected from at the group comprising blood plasma, cell or tissue fluids, lymph, a thymic fluid, a ascites fluid, an amniotic fluid, gastric juices, urine, pancreatic juices, spinal fluid, or saliva.~~

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7, where the patient is a person suffering from one or more ~~of the following diseases or conditions~~ diseases selected from the group consisting of: acute or chronic myeloid leukemia, acute promyelocytic leukemia, pulmonary embolism, cerebral infarction, veno-occlusive disease, acute lymphocytic leukemia, and deep vein thrombosis.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, where the patient is a person under a long-term treatment with dialysis accompanied by repeated shunts.